

## Update: E-Bike, E-Scooter, and E-Moto Enforcement in Prairie Village

Over the last several months, the Prairie Village Police Department has focused heavily on education. Following the passage of our updated city ordinances, our officers have stopped numerous young riders to hand out warnings, explain the rules of the road, and connect with parents.

While our goal is always education first, we continue to receive a high volume of traffic and sidewalk complaints from the community. To keep our neighborhoods, sidewalks, and streets safe for everyone, **PVPD is transitioning from warnings to a more aggressive enforcement, including citations.**

We need parents and riders to understand the legal distinctions between these devices. Many high-powered electric vehicles being ridden by juveniles are not legal "toys"—they are unregistered motorcycles.

### Electric-Assisted Bicycles (E-Bikes) & E-Scooters

- **The Rules:** Operators must yield to pedestrians, give an audible warning (like a bell or a verbal "on your left") before passing, and cannot ride while distracted (such as texting).
- **Helmets:** Under Prairie Village Ordinance 11-224, **all riders under the age of 18 are required to wear a helmet** on e-bikes and e-scooters.
- **Class 1 & 2 E-Bikes:** Have functional pedals, are capped at 20 mph, and are permitted on sidewalks with proper caution.
- **Class 3 E-Bikes:** Can reach speeds up to 28 mph. By city law, these **must be ridden on the roadway, and the operator must be 16 years of age or older.**

### Illegal "E-Motos," Electric Dirt Bikes, and Mopeds

- **The Reality:** High-performance electric machines (such as Sur-Rons, Talarias, or gas/electric mopeds over 49cc) that feature no functional pedals, or travel over 30 mph, are **classified as motorcycles under Kansas law.**
- **The Restrictions:** These vehicles are **100% illegal to operate on sidewalks or recreational paths.**
- **The Requirements:** To ride an e-moto or moped on a public street, the operator **must have a valid driver's license (with a motorcycle endorsement if applicable), registration, and insurance.**

Operating an illegal, unregistered vehicle, riding without a license, or operating a motorized vehicle on a sidewalk can result in citations and fines.

**Attention parents!** If you are considering purchasing an electric device for your child, please double-check the manufacturer specs to ensure it complies with Kansas law and Prairie Village Municipal Code. Let's work together to keep PV streets and sidewalks safe for pedestrians and drivers alike! Have questions? Visit our website or contact our traffic unit at main [traffic number](#) or Sgt. Mieske?

